

Atlanta Ham

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

MARCH 2004

New Amateur Radio Bill Sponsors "an optimistic sign," Haynie says

Source: The ARRL Letter Feb 13 2004

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says he's encouraged to see additional members of the US House of Representatives agreeing to cosponsor The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003, HR 713, and the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003, HR 1478--also known as "the CC&R bill." In Washington this week with an ARRL delegation, Haynie called it "an optimistic sign" for Amateur Radio that League members are continuing to urge their lawmakers to sign aboard the two pieces of legislation, which are ARRL initiatives.

"House members have proven to be very responsive to entreaties from the amateur community to get behind these bills," an elated Haynie said this week. "The campaign continues to pay off in terms of additional cosponsors for our bills." As of this week, 84 House members have gone on record as HR 713 cosponsors. An identical companion bill in the US Senate, S 537, has attracted eight cosponsors.

Among recent House cosponsors of HR 713 are representatives Chris Bell (R-TX), Candice S. Miller (R-MI), Jim Turner (D-TX), Jay Inslee, (D-WA), Ray LaHood (R-IL), Stevan Pearce, (R-NM) and Baron Hill, (D-IN).

Sponsored in the House by Rep Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) and in the Senate by Sen Michael Crapo (R-ID), the bill would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement



spectrum" to Amateur Radio if the FCC reallocates primary amateur frequencies, reduces any secondary amateur allocations, or makes additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs. HR 713 has been referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet. The Senate version, S537, has been referred to the Sen-

(Continued on page 4)

New ARC Program Manager asking for input

As I am sure you all know the ARC has had the luxury of an excellent Program Director for the last 6 years or so. Penn McClatchey .K4PE. has done a wonderful job of providing interesting programs for us all to partake in.

Source:
Dave, KG4ZGG

As of our last meeting Penn has decided he would like to take a back seat and let someone else take over. We are all very great full for his continuing dedication and support to the ARC. I am sure he would love to hear from you all as to how much you have enjoyed his hard work over the last 6 years.

Penn has promised to remain active and help out as much as possible when planning future programs for the arc and I will be very great full for all his input into the future.

But from now on I will be taking over as Program Manager for the ARC. With your help and support I hope I can achieve half as much as Penn has over the last 6 years.

Many of you may know me from my constant presence on the W4DOC repeater. But many of you as of yet have not heard from or spoken to me.

I am KG4ZGG affectionately know as Ziggy less affectionately known by more FCC banned phrases then I care to fit into this email. My Real name though is Dave.

Penn has pointed out an numerous occasions, and I am rapidly seeing his point. The problem with program scheduling for the ARC is not so much ideas as it is people willing to present them.

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THE ATLANTA HAM

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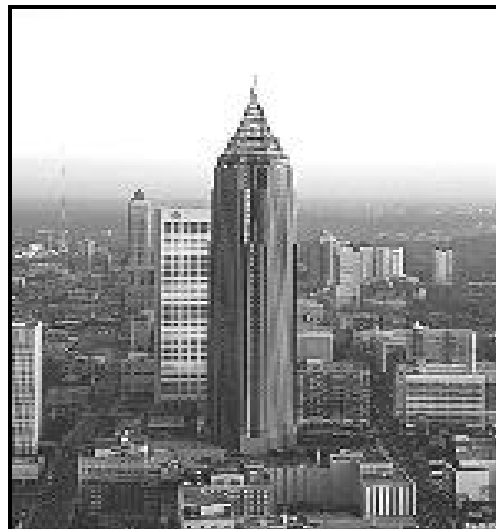
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THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

Originally known as the "Atlanta Wireless Club," the Atlanta Radio Club is one of the oldest and largest amateur radio clubs in the United States. With nearly 200 members, the Club sponsors numerous activities and services for its membership and for the Atlanta area amateur radio community.

The Club is best known for its sponsorship of the annual Atlanta HamFestival, a Saturday event which hosts many vendors, exhibitors, and flea marketers of amateur radio equipment and other electronic equipment.



Bank of America Tower
Site of Atlanta Repeaters:
146.82(-), 224.34(-) and 444.825(+)

W4DOC REPEATERS

The Atlanta Radio Club operates five repeaters at two locations. Currently our most active project is at the Bank of America Tower where we operate three repeaters at 146.82(-), 224.34 (-), and 444.825(+). On the web, go to <http://www.saf.com/arc/repeater.pdf> for a Acrobat 4.0 diagram of our system.

Our second location is the WFOX broadcast tower at Chestnut Mountain, south of Gainesville, GA. We operate two repeaters on 145.35(-) & 444.45 (+) . These repeaters are being renovated under the expert guidance of Dennis, KF4MHW. For pictures of that site, see <http://www.saf.com/arc/wfox.html>

The current schedule for net operations include the Sunday Night Net on 146.820 (Linked to 145.35 on FOX) at 8PM EST and the Southeastern VHF Net on Wednesday evenings at 9PM. The 146.820 machine can also be dialed into IRLP and SKYWARN/Peachtree City during inclement weather.

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS



MEETING NOTICE

WHEN:

Thursday March 4 , 2004 7:30PM

WHERE:

Red Cross 1955 Monroe Drive –
Atlanta

PROGRAM: David Schornak, N1IB, has kindly volunteered to bring his K2 and open it up for all of you to see. For those of you who do not know anything about the K2. This is a complete Kit build HF radio.

I would also ask other ARC members who have kits they have built to bring them along and allow the club to see what is available at each level of skill these days. From simple first time project candidates up to and including the K2 and all of its accessories.

TALK IN:

146.820 (-) PL 146.2

DINNER: The Picadilly Ansley Mall
Located 1/2 mile from Red Cross
On Monroe Drive

Vanity HQ Web site on thin ice

ARRL LETTER Feb 20, 2004

Vanity HQ Web site on thin ice: The proprietor of the popular Vanity HQ Web site <<http://www.vanityhq.com/>>, Michael Carroll, N4MC, says the site's future viability is hanging by a thread. "Vanity HQ has been on life support these past two years since I lost my job," Carroll said in a February 12 posting. "Unfortunately, it has become necessary to pull the plug on the daily updates and eventually, the site itself." At this point, Carroll says, the site will remain up until mid-March while he relocates and mulls his personal situation, but he says not to look for any updates at least for the next couple of weeks.

AMSAT announces ECHO launch delay

AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, has announced that due to a delay in the delivery of the primary payload to the launch site in Kazakhstan, the launch of the ECHO satellite has been delayed by some three months. "The 'official' launch date is now June 29, 2004," Haighton said. "I assume that this new date is the start of the new launch window, which may last several weeks."--AMSAT-NA



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New Amateur Radio Bill Sponsors "an optimistic sign," Haynie says

Source: The ARRL Letter

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ate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Meanwhile, the cosponsor count on the CC&R bill, HR 1478, rose to 32 this week with the addition of Rep Jim DeMint (R-SC), who was approached by ARRL South Carolina Section Manager Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, to consider cosponsoring both HR 1478 and HR 713. Introduced by Rep Steve Israel (D-NY), the CC&R bill would require private land-use regulators such as homeowners' associations to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption.

Recent HR 1478 cosponsors also include representatives Donald Manzullo (R-IL) and Anibal Acevedo-Vila (D-PR). HR 1478 also has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.

Although buoyed by the bills' recent cosponsorship progress, Haynie is continuing to encourage ARRL members to send cards and letters to their House of Representatives member urging them to cosponsor HR 713 and HR 1478, and to their state's two US senators to cosponsor S 537.

"There's a long way to go, and that's what it's going to take," Haynie said. "Cards and letters from individual voters do make a difference."

Meanwhile, Louisiana Republican Billy Tauzin's announcement that he'll step down as chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and not run for re-election has set off a political sideshow. On February 6, nearly every committee member urged House Speaker Dennis Hastert to appoint Rep Joe Barton (R-TX) to replace Tauzin as chairman. Barton also serves on the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, but he has not yet signed on as a cosponsor of either HR 713 or HR 1478.

Additional information—including the bills' texts, sample letters and information on how to write members of Congress—is on the ARRL "The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003" Web page <http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html> and on the "HR 1478, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003" Web page

<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr1478/>.

Those writing their lawmakers on behalf of the Spectrum Protection Act are asked to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail specbill03@arrl.org; Those writing their House member on behalf of the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, HR 1478, are asked to copy their correspondence to ccr-bill@arrl.org;

Welcome new members...

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KB4BBH, Herb Schall**



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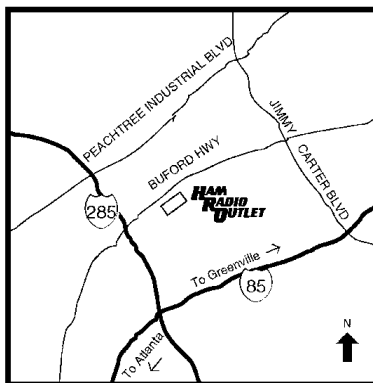
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METRO TESTING SESSIONS

Call ahead to verify session and be prepared with the appropriate forms and required papers. A small fee may be charged. Check with the VEC

Athens, GA

1st Monday of each EVEN-numbered month at 7:00 pm 2095 W. Broad Street.
Contact: EDWIN FUQUA, N4VA
(706) 354-1727 E: edwin.fuqua@charter.net

Cartersville, GA

1st Tuesday of each month at the Cartersville Kroger. Contact: JODI POWELL, AG4BK
(770) 387-1591

Gainesville, GA

1st Sunday of EVEN-numbered months Johnson High School, 3305 Poplar Springs Rd
Contact: ALFRED WESTBROOK, KT4VP
(770) 965-4901 Email: kt4vp@arrl.net

Lilburn, GA

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
4th Friday of Every Month at 7:00 pm
St. John Neumann Church 801 Tom Smith Rd
Contact: Howie Gould, W9HG (770)921-8362
Headphones provided for CW tests.

Milledgeville, GA ARRL / VEC

2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 am at the Mary Vinson Memorial Library, 151 S. Jefferson Stacross from the Georgia Military Academy. Contact: OTIS MURPHY W4OY
(478) 452-6394 Email: W4OY@arrl.net

Peachtree City, GA

1st Thursday of EVEN-numbered months at 7:00 pm, and the 2nd Saturday of ODD-numbered months at 10:00 am at the Peachtree City Library, downstairs meeting room. Contact: JAN DUBROCA, KN4JD (770) 502-0760

Snellville, GA

2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Road.
Contact: WAYNE TAYLOR, WD3CCA
(770) 498-7759

Stone Mountain, GA ARRL / VEC

Alford Memorial Radio Club
2nd Saturday of ODD-numbered months at 8:30 am Stone Mountain United Methodist Church, 5312 W. Mountain St.
Contact: BOB VARONE, W4ETN
(770) 978 3179 Email: bvarone@juno.com

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2004

Always the 4th Saturday!

STARS – MARCH, 12pm – 3pm SCITREK
Contact Penn. K4PE

UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR

13-14 Mar 2004 * North Carolina Section Convention
Mecklenburg ARS
<http://www.w4bfb.org>

20 Mar 2004 + Kennehoo-
chee ARC
<http://www.w4bti.org>

17 Apr 2004 + Catawba Val-
ley Hamfest
McDowell ARA & Western
Piedmont ARC

23-24 Apr 2004 * Southeast-
ern VHF Conference
Southeastern VHF Society
<http://www.svhfs.org>

24 Apr 2004 + Cherokee
Capital ARS
<http://www.qsl.net/k4woc>

1-2 May 2004 * Alabama Section Convention
Birmingham ARC

1 May 2004 * South Carolina Section Convention
Blue Ridge ARS
<http://www.upstatehamfest.org>

14-16 May 2004 x Dayton Hamvention
Dayton ARA
<http://www.hamvention.org/>

5 Jun 2004 * Georgia Section Convention
Atlanta Radio Club

1/1/2004 - There will be a new Date and Venue for the 2004 KARC/Kennehoochee Hamfest. This year's KARC hamfest will be held Saturday, March 20, 2004. Setup will be Friday. The venue will be Life College in Marietta. All activities, booths, exhibits, with the exception of the Bone Yard, will be indoor. See www.4bti.org more details.

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NPR feature spotlights addition of @ symbol to Morse Code

Source: ARRL Letter

Some hams may have thought they'd left their transceivers turned on Tuesday, February 17. That's when the popular National Public Radio <<http://www.npr.org/>> afternoon news magazine All Things Considered ran a piece about the pending addition of the @ symbol to the official international Morse code lexicon. That's because NPR introduced and closed the nearly four-minute segment with actual CW, catching the ear of many hams.

ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, conceived of the new character, necessary for transmitting e-mail addresses in CW, among other possible purposes. Assuming approval by International Telecommunication Union <<http://www.itu.int/home/index.html>> member-

states, the new character--the first added to the code in many, many years--will be "AC" run together (.-.-.).

The new character, Rinaldo says, is both unique in the Morse world as well as a mnemonic (think of an 'a' wrapped in a 'C').

ATC co-host Robert Siegel interviewed ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL, for some background on the change, giving Lindquist an opportunity to mention his passion for mobile CW operation. The short feature, "Morse Code Enters Cyber Age," is available on the National Public Radio Web site, <<http://www.npr.org/rundowns/segment.php?wfid=1680529>>.

Hamvention planning, preparations going full tilt!

(ARRL Letter Feb 23, 2004) -- Hamvention General Chairman Gary Des Combes, N8EMO, reports all is going smoothly as the 2004 show approaches. Hamvention will take place Friday through Sunday, May 14-16, at Hara Arena in Trotwood, near Dayton, Ohio. The theme for the 53rd Hamvention is "The Year of the Contact." Des Combes says all forum slots have been filled, and about two-thirds of the inside exhibit spaces have been spoken for--which, he points out, is ahead of last year. Des Combes says advanced ticket sales and flea market sign-ups appear to be strong. "We are compiling data now, but demand is very high," he said. Hamvention has another mailing in the works in an effort to attract additional exhibitors. Des Combes also notes that the Hamvention Web site has been upgraded and now provides for on-line, credit card ticket purchases. "Things are going well, and my team is outstanding," Des Combes said in summing up

Hamvention's preparations to date. "I really am fortunate to have the best volunteers in the world." Under the banner of its Great Lakes Division, the ARRL will offer a forum, "How Grassroots Action Gets Lawmakers' Reaction," at Hamvention on Friday, May 14, 12:15 PM. Moderated by ARRL Great Lakes Division Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT, the forum will feature an introduction by ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, and participation by ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, who will discuss "How to Influence Congressional Representatives," ARRL New England Division Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, on "Getting State Legislators to Work with Us" and ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, who's titled his remarks "ARRL: Tighten that Cinch, and Go Do It!" The annual ARRL Forum gets under way at 8:30 AM on Saturday, May 15. Check the Hamvention Web site for additional details.

President Bush thanks ham radio volunteer

President Bush thanks ham radio volunteer: Shortly after stepping off Air Force One February 5 during a visit to South Carolina, President George W. Bush took a few moments to express his appreciation to ARRL member and Charleston County ARES Emergency Coordinator Charlie Hall, K4AOT. "For all Charlie has done for ham radio and the community, he certainly deserves to be put in the spotlight," said his friend Alex Krist, KR1ST. A member of the Charleston Amateur Radio Society and a retired US Army sergeant, Hall, 64, volunteers with a newly formed Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) <<http://www.citizencorps.gov/programs/cert.shtm>>, a Citi-

zen Corps <<http://www.citizencorps.gov/>> program. The president shook Hall's hand and thanked him for his efforts on behalf of the community. ARRL is a Citizen Corps affiliate, and in a growing number of localities, Amateur Radio emergency response activities are being incorporated into CERTs. Hall, who also volunteers with the American Red Cross and a SKYWARN team, was tapped as Charleston County's "official greeter" for the presidential visit mainly because of his Citizen Corp/CERT activity.--some information from Alex Krist, KR1ST, and Jim Boehner, N2ZZ

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC P.O. Box 720398 Atlanta, GA 30358

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Make your check payable to Atlanta Radio Club

ARC Program Manager looks asking for input

(Continued from page 1)

Due to this fact I will point out that our future program schedule looks to be in crisis mode. Both Penn and I have lots of ideas that we would like to provide presentations on, but the list of people willing to get up and talk in front of the group is very very small.

So I'm afraid to say my first act as ARC program manager is to turn around to you folks and sayHelp..!.

The ARC is one of the largest clubs in the Southeast.

So I'm afraid to say my first act as ARC program manager is to turn around to you folks and sayHelp..!.

As such we should also have one of the largest sources of expertise in the Southeast.

So here is the big request. Each of you think about the section of this hobby that interests you the most. Now think about all the other members of our club that also have an interest in that subject. If none of these people know more about the subject then you, well we want you !. If on the other hand someone has more knowledge then you, we want you to help that person set up a presentation.(and if necessary convince them to do so)

I do understand that many of you are nervous about

getting up in front of a group of people to talk. I am also more then willing to help out with the actual presentation if needed, to the extent that if you really feel unable to get up in front of 40 or so HAMs then feel free to prepare a script/presentation and ask me to present it. As long as you are willing to sit to the side to give pointers when I get something wrong, and then partake in a question and answer session. Then I will be more then happy to stand in front of the group and give the actual speech. On many occasions ill even be happy to help with the wording etc.

Also please feel free to email me with suggestions and ideas you would like to see on the Program. I will follow this email with a list of the planned meetings (so far this is march :-(), and a collection of the meeting ideas that we are currently looking for people to present. I will try to send out an email along these lines each month to encourage people to try and fill the vacant slots.

Thank you for your time and 73 KG4ZGG
KG4ZGG@ARRL.NET

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC
PO BOX 720398
ATLANTA, GA 30358



MEETING NOTICE - THURSDAY MARCH 4, 2004

Freeze Your Buns Off a success! (NOGAQRP)

Thanks to the Arizona ScQRPions QRP Club for another great sprint. NoGa had the temperature in their favor this year. It was 38 F. when we started and 32 F. when we stopped and that is plenty cold for us Southerners.

A total of 11 NoGanauts braved the cold weather and 5 of them actually made contacts. We were hosted by Tom, K4TJD and Joe, W4JHR at "Palicio de Roof".. Joe's 12 acres of amateur radio operating opportunity. The wind was really howling at the beginning but calmed down toward the end.

Source: According to my notes the following were present: Tom, K4TJD, Joe, W4JHR, Russ, AE4NY, Pickett, AD4S Paul, K4HCM, Bob, AA4CX, Wey, K8EAB, George, WA4TNU, Pickett, AD4S, John, AB4GK Norm, NGAQRP CLUB WA4ZXV and Jack, K5FSE. If there was anyone else there, let me know.

Following the sprint, Joe served up some scrumptious chili while we all regaled each other with our unbelievable feats of operating legerdemain.

I'm sorry that I did not get more pictures of all the folks and the chilifest but I spent most of my time operating, getting warm and eating.

The next NoGa meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2004 The NoGaQRP club meets monthly at 10AM on the first Saturday of the month at the Wieuca Baptist Church in Buckhead. The address is 3626 Peachtree Rd. (corner of Wieuca Rd.), Atlanta, 30336. We have reserved the activities center which is a separate building out in the back of the parking lot.

Every Friday: Please join the Atlanta Radio Club for lunch Fridays around noon at the 5 Seasons Restaurant. At I-285 and Roswell Rd go south on Roswell Rd, 0.2 mile turn right. 5 Seasons Restaurant drive way is the first driveway past 1 Stop light. First stop light is Lake Placid Dr. After turning right go till dead end. Turn right and you are there.